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COUNTRY China/Hong Kong/Southeast Asia

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SUBJECT 1. Chinese Communist Trade, Canton Area
2. Soviet and Communist Intelligence Activities, Canton Area

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1. During May 1951 the Chinese Communist Bureau of Trade in Canton issued import licenses for goods to the value of more than HK \$30,000,000.
2. On 24 and 25 May some 2,000 drums of gasoline and 500 motors were unloaded at Whampoa. On 25 May a large quantity of communications supplies, 8 automobiles and approximately 100 tons of steel plate were shipped north from Canton by railroad.
3. For the purpose of strengthening the supervision of Communist activities and reinforcing the intelligence network in South China and Southeast Asia, the Far East Bureau of the Cominform (sic) assigned an important Soviet intelligence officer, Skelav¹, and eight other intelligence men to Canton. They arrived in Canton from Peking via Hankow on 16 May 1951, and stayed in the Pai Kung Hotel, T'ai-ping Road South. In the first few days after their arrival they held separate conferences with Wei Chiao-ying, Vozhnev¹, military adviser in Kwangtung; Setekov¹, air defense adviser; and Kopolosov², military attache at the Soviet consulate in Canton. The Soviet group was to continue its inspection tour to Hainan, Kwangsi and Indochina in order to give directives with regard to improving the intelligence activities.
4. The natives of Kwangtung who had been assigned for secret work in Kowloon and Hong Kong proved inefficient, partly because of inadequate Communist indoctrination and partly as the result of the pull of their ties of kinship, and were consequently withdrawn by the Chinese Communist authorities. They returned to the Chinese mainland at the end of April 1951 and were replaced by agents from other provinces.

25X1A 1. Comment These are approximations of Russian names derived from Chinese phonetic renditions; alternative forms might be "Sainov, Stekov, and Sikorov."

25X1A 2. Comment. Like the other names, this is an approximation, which could also be rendered Chapirosov. Comment a reported the name of the Soviet military attache in Canton as Yabolov; Comment as Yapirov.

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